

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 319

By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Candace Parker for her many accomplishments with the Lady Vols.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those successful collegiate athletes who, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to the State of Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this State; and

WHEREAS, University of Tennessee (UT) basketball star Candace Parker is one such athlete, and her dedication to excellence has enabled her to construct a record-breaking and awe-inspiring career with the Lady Vols; and

WHEREAS, a native of Naperville, Illinois, Miss Parker came to Tennessee as perhaps the most decorated high school player in history and as only the second Lady Vol hailing from the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, this season alone, Miss Parker has averaged 19.6 points, 9.8 rebounds, and 2.8 blocked shots per game; she has been named the SEC Player of the Year, the Basketball Writers' Association Player of the Year, the youngest person ever to win the State Farm Wade Trophy Player of the Year, and the fifth Lady Vol to earn the NCAA Tournament Most Valuable Player after leading Tennessee to its seventh national championship; and

WHEREAS, Miss Parker will return for her junior season at UT as one of the most decorated members of the most successful women's basketball programs in the country; she was the 2006 SEC Freshman of the Year and Tournament MVP, has twice won Kodak All-America honors, was named a 2007 first-team Associated Press All-American, and was named as a 2007 *ESPN the Magazine* second-team Academic All-American; and

WHEREAS, Miss Parker is the fastest Lady Vol to amass 1,000 career points; she recently became the youngest female to earn the prestigious John R. Wooden Player of the Year from the Los Angeles Athletic Club; and

WHEREAS, Candace Parker's name is in the Tennessee record books for being eighth in all-time career field goal percentage, thirteenth in all-time career blocks, second in all-time season blocks, first in all-time single-season free-throws attempted and third in free-throws made, second in freshman season points and scoring average, fourth in freshman season rebounds and third in rebounding average, second all-time freshman single game free-throws made, first all-time freshman single game blocks, second all-time single game blocks, eighth all-time freshman single game rebounds, second in all-time freshman single game scoring, third in all-time freshman single game field goals made, and third in total double-doubles by a freshman; and

WHEREAS, aside from her achievements on the basketball court, Miss Parker finds time to give back to the community through her work with D.A.R.E., Loaves & Fishes, and the Ronald McDonald House; and

WHEREAS, Candace Parker is grateful for the love and support of her parents, Larry Parker and Sara Parker, and her brothers, Anthony and Marcus; and

WHEREAS, Miss Parker's determination, work ethic, and talent have not only made possible a memorable and successful basketball career, but also surely point toward her success in every future endeavor; and

WHEREAS, Candace Parker epitomizes the spirit of volunteerism and commitment to excellence that are characteristic of all true Tennesseans, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Lady Vol Candace Parker for her many accomplishments and wish her every success in all future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.